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The University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

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April 27, 1994

UM ANNOUNCES NEW DIRECTOR OF STUDENT VOLUNTEER COALITION

MISSOULA --

Ryan Knee, a Missoula native and University of Montana social work graduate, has been named executive director of the Montana Campus Compact, President George Dennison announced.

The Montana Campus Compact is a coalition of university and college presidents who foster volunteer opportunities for students by promoting academic programs and policies that encourage student community service. Through the Campus Compact, local organizations, municipal governments and businesses give volunteers experience with social issues as they prepare to become civic leaders.

Two-thirds of the state's higher education campuses, representing 90 percent of college students statewide, belong to the coalition, including both state universities, private, community and tribal colleges.

The University of Montana hosts the Campus Compact, with the Davidson Honors College serving as its administrative liaison.

"The point of the Campus Compact is to integrate academic study with involvement in the community to produce responsible, informed citizens," said John Madden, dean of the Honors College.

Knee will be responsible for providing leadership to statewide members of the Campus Compact. His work will include recruiting new college campuses to the coalition, managing grant

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funds for member campuses, fund raising and public relations.

Knee is completing a doctorate in social work from the University of Denver in October. He earned master's and bachelor's degrees in social work from Eastern Washington University and UM, respectively.

Knee replaces the coalition's first director, Elizabeth Dane, who will return to her position as social work professor at Hunter College in New York City. On leave from Hunter, Dane established the Montana Campus Compact in January 1993 as part of a nationwide coalition that includes 500 member campuses.

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